Form # 2016-2ad40fee UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

9 June 2016

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – Federal Jury Convicts Man of Smuggling Nearly Two Tons of Marijuana

(U) A man has been convicted of drug trafficking charges after he was found near a smuggling boat near Hollister Ranch, just west of Gaviota. Jose Guadalupe Zepeda-Ramirez was convicted following a three-day trial of two felony counts – conspiracy to possess with the intent to distribute marijuana and possession with the intent to distribute marijuana. Zepeda and another man were discovered in March 2016 near a panga that had landed on a beach. The investigation was led by the US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations, with assistance provided by the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department, the US Coast Guard, US Customs and Border Protection, the California Highway Patrol and the California National Guard.

SOURCE: 8 June 2013, US ICE

(U) San Francisco – Millions of Stolen Twitter Logins Put on Sale

(U) More than 32 million Twitter login names and passwords are reportedly being offered for sale online. A hacker using the name Tessa88 is asking for 10 bitcoins from anyone that wants to copy the list. It is not yet clear whether the list is genuine or how it has been compiled. Some reports suggest it brings together data stolen from users by malware. In a statement, Twitter said it was "confident" that the data did not emerge from a breach of its network.

SOURCE: 9 June 2016, BBC

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Minnesota – FBI Director: Number of ISIL Cases in US Has Not Dropped Off

(U) Brooklyn Center – The director of the FBI said Tuesday that the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) is currently the main threat facing the United States, both in its efforts to recruit fighters to join its members overseas and to have others carry out violence in America. Director James Comey said ISIL poses a third potential threat: a "terrorist diaspora" that he said will eventually flow out of Syria and Iraq and end up in Western Europe. "There's three prongs to this ISIL threat," Comey said. "The recruitment to travel, the recruitment to violence in place, and then what you saw a preview of in Brussels and in Paris — hardened fighters coming out, looking to kill people."

SOURCE: 7 June 2016, <u>Associated Press</u>

(U) Virginia – Man Faces Charges after Joining, Then Quitting ISIL

(U) Alexandria – A Virginia man who authorities say joined ISIL before surrendering to Kurdish authorities has been flown back to the US to face terror-related charges. A judge today unsealed charges against Mohamad Khweis alleging he provided material support to extremists and agreed to be a suicide bomber. Khweis was captured by Kurdish forces in northern Iraq in March 2016. He told his captors he was a Palestinian-American who had gone to join ISIL. He told Kurdish television he became disenchanted with life and made his way to the front lines to surrender. According to the affidavit,

Form # 2016-2ad40fee

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Khweis received training in Islamic law during his time there, but the affidavit makes no mention of military training.

SOURCE: 9 June 2016, ABC News

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – University Pays Ransom to Hackers

(U) Calgary –The University of Calgary transferred 20,000 Canadian dollars-worth of bitcoins (\$15,780) after it was unable to unwind damage caused by a type of attack known as ransomware. The malware caused emails and other files to become encrypted. One expert warned that the payout would encourage further blackmail attempts. The move comes the same week Intel warned that ransomware infections were spreading at "an alarming rate." More than 120 separate strains exist, many of which are frequently updated, making it difficult for security experts to offer a solution. SOURCE: 8 June 2016, BBC

(U) Guatemala – Guatemala 'Closes Its Eyes' to Rampant Child Sex Trafficking

(U) Guatemala City — Every day 33 people become entrapped in sex trafficking rings in Guatemala, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said. Nearly 60 percent of the 50,000 victims of sex trafficking in Guatemala are children, according to a report. "Sex trafficking is fueled by a "social tolerance" of children being sold for sex work, a business equal to 2.7 percent of Guatemala's gross domestic product. Poverty is one of the biggest drivers of sex trafficking in the central American country where three in five people live on less than \$3.10 a day, UNICEF said. Traffickers often target poor, uneducated and unemployed women and girls, luring them with false promises of earning money as a waitress or model, UNICEF said.

SOURCE: 8 June 2016, Reuters

(U) Somalia – Ethiopian Troops Killed in Attack by Militants

(U) Mogadishu – At least 30 Ethiopian troops were killed today in an attack on a base for African Union peacekeepers in central Somalia, a Somali military official said. A suicide bomber detonated his explosives-laden vehicle at the gates of the Ethiopian military base there before gunmen entered the base, said a military officer in the town of Halgan, where the attack happened. The death toll is likely to rise, he said. The extremist group al-Shabaab claimed it had killed 43 Ethiopian soldiers in the attack, but the Ethiopian Communications Minister Getachew Reda said that the assault was repelled and that more than 100 of the attackers were killed. He did not say how many Ethiopians were killed or injured. SOURCE: 9 June 2016, ABC News

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLESE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-874-1100.

Warning: This document is the exclusive property of the State Threat Assessment Center (STAC) and is UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO). It contains information that may be exempt from public release under the California Public Records Act (Govt. Code Sec. 6250-6270). It is to be controlled, stored, handled, transmitted, distributed, and disposed of in accordance with STAC policy relating to U//FOUO information and is not to be released to the public, the media, or other personnel who do not have a valid "need-to-know" without prior approval of an authorized STAC official. No portion of this report should be furnished to the media, either in written or verbal form. This document contains excerpts of suspicious activities and incidents of interest to the STAC as obtained from open and unclassified sources.